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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

A REPORT BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY PREPARED IN COORDINATION WITH THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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Supervisor, Economic Analysis and Reports

December 84-12

SUMMARY: Total unemployment in New Hampshire increased by 3,640 from mid-November to mid-December. The latest total of 21,390 unemployed represents 4.1 percent of the civilian labor force of 525,540. The rate was 3.4 percent in November as both New Hampshire and Massachusetts were tied with the lowest rate of any state in the nation. A year ago the rate was 3.9 percent. The unemployment rate increased in each of the labor market areas except Littleton. The rates ranged from a low of 2.7 percent in the Keene labor market area to a high of 7.0 percent in the Dover labor market area. Compared to a year ago six areas had decreased unemployment levels and five areas had increased levels. Seasonal layoffs in construction due to colder weather conditions and layoffs in the footwear industry contributed to the higher level of unemployment. There were, however, some employment gains in December as some new hiring occurred in trade due to holiday shopping. Also, ski areas increased hiring as some began operations while others began gearing up for the upcoming season.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased by 350 from November as manufacturing was up 100 and nonmanufacturing 250. Compared to a year ago it increased by 21,750 as manufacturing is up 6,850 and nonmanufacturing 14,900. The largest manufacturing industrial gain occurred in electrical products with an increase of 3,250. In nonmanufacturing, services recorded the largest over the year increase of 7,000 and was followed closely by trade with 6,600.

Manchester Economic Conditions: Total unemployment increased by 750 from November as the unemployment rate increased from 2.7 to 3.5 percent. A year ago the rate was 3.8 percent. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment decreased by 200 as manufacturing was down 150 and nonmanufacturing 50. Compared to a year ago manufacturing is up 850 and nonmanufacturing 3,000. The largest industrial gain over the year occurred in trade with an increase of 1,250 workers.

Nashua Economic Conditions: Total unemployment increased by 450 from November as the unemployment rate increased from 2.3 to 2.8 percent. A year ago the rate was 3.0 percent. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased by 150 from November. Compared to a year ago manufacturing is up 2,200 while nonmanufacturing is up 2,150. The largest industrial gain over the year occurred in machinery and electrical products with an increase of 2,650 workers.

New Hampshire Labor Force, Total Employment and Unemployment and Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment as of the Middle of the Month

Industry	State					Manchester Labor Market Area					Nashua Labor Market Area				
	Number of Workers			Numerical Change From Previous		Number of Workers			Numerical Change From Previous		Number of Workers			Numerical Change From Previous	
	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983	Month	Year	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983	Month	Year	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983	Month	Year
1. Civilian labor force*	525,540	527,130	511,720	-1,590	13,820	91,090	91,590	88,160	-500	2,930	93,540	94,010	89,460	-470	4,080
2. Unemployment	21,390	17,750	19,980	3,640	1,410	3,210	2,460	3,360	750	-150	2,580	2,130	2,690	450	-110
Percent of labor force	4.1	3.4	3.9	xxx	xxx	3.5	2.7	3.8	xxx	xxx	2.8	2.3	3.0	xxx	xxx
3. Employment total	504,150	509,380	491,740	-5,230	12,410	87,880	89,130	84,800	-1,250	3,080	90,960	91,880	86,770	-920	4,190
4. Persons involved in labor disputes	0	200	0	-200	0	0	200	0	-200	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nonagri. wage & salary**	445,800	445,450	424,050	350	21,750	84,250	84,450	80,400	-200	3,850	78,750	78,600	74,400	150	4,350
Manufacturing	123,850	123,750	117,000	100	6,850	17,400	17,550	16,550	-150	850	36,950	36,800	34,750	150	2,200
Durable goods	82,550	82,150	75,450	400	7,100	10,300	10,300	9,600	0	700	30,750	30,500	28,000	250	2,750
Lumber & wood prods.	5,300	5,300	5,000	0	300										
Furniture & fixtures	1,550	1,600	1,500	-50	50										
Stone & clay prods.	2,850	2,850	2,650	0	200										
Primary metal prods.	3,950	4,000	3,900	-50	50										
Fabricated metal prods.	7,450	7,350	7,250	100	200										
Machinery (exc. elec.)	24,750	24,550	22,150	200	2,600										
Electrical prods.	26,250	*26,050	23,000	200	3,250	6,550	*6,500	6,150	50	400	23,550	23,400	20,900	150	2,650
Miscellaneous prods.	2,050	2,050	1,850	0	200										
Other durables	8,400	8,400	8,150	0	250	3,750	3,800	3,450	-50	300	7,200	7,100	7,100	100	100
Nondurable goods	41,300	41,600	41,550	-300	-250	7,100	7,250	6,950	-150	150	6,200	6,300	6,750	-100	-550
Food & kindred prods.	3,100	3,100	3,000	0	100										
Textile mill prods.	4,250	4,250	4,250	0	0										
Apparel	2,700	2,700	2,900	0	-200	1,800	1,850	1,950	-50	-150					
Paper & allied prods.	5,600	5,600	5,600	0	0										
Print., pub. & allied	7,050	7,100	6,600	-50	450										
Leather & lea. prods.	7,750	8,000	9,150	-250	-1,400										
Other nondurables	10,850	10,850	10,050	0	800	5,300	5,400	5,000	-100	300					
Nonmanufacturing	321,950	321,700	307,050	250	14,900	66,850	66,900	63,850	-50	3,000	41,800	41,800	39,650	0	2,150
Construction (inc. min.)	22,950	24,050	24,000	-1,100	-1,050	4,500	4,550	3,700	-50	800	3,250	3,350	3,000	-100	250
Trans., comm. & util.	15,800	15,950	15,700	-150	100	5,100	5,200	5,150	-100	-50	2,100	2,100	2,050	0	50
Trade	105,150	103,850	98,550	1,300	6,600	22,800	22,500	21,550	300	1,250	15,050	15,050	14,500	0	550
Fin., ins. & real estate	23,550	23,600	21,750	-50	1,800	6,550	6,550	6,250	0	300	2,700	2,650	2,350	50	350
Service industry & other	92,800	92,250	85,800	550	7,000	19,300	19,300	18,450	0	850	12,900	12,850	12,100	50	800
Government	61,700	62,000	61,250	-300	450	8,600	8,800	8,750	-200	-150	5,800	5,800	5,650	0	150
Federal	12,300	12,150	11,850	150	450	2,150	2,150	2,050	0	100	700	700	750	0	-50
State	15,900	15,800	15,800	100	100	900	900	900	0	0	300	300	250	0	50
Local	33,500	34,050	33,600	-550	-100	5,550	5,750	5,800	-200	-250	4,800	4,800	4,650	0	150

Machinery And Electrical Products Combined

* By place of residence

** By place of establishment

' Benchmark March 1983

Labor Disputes:

*November 1984- Industry 36 - 200 workers on strike not included

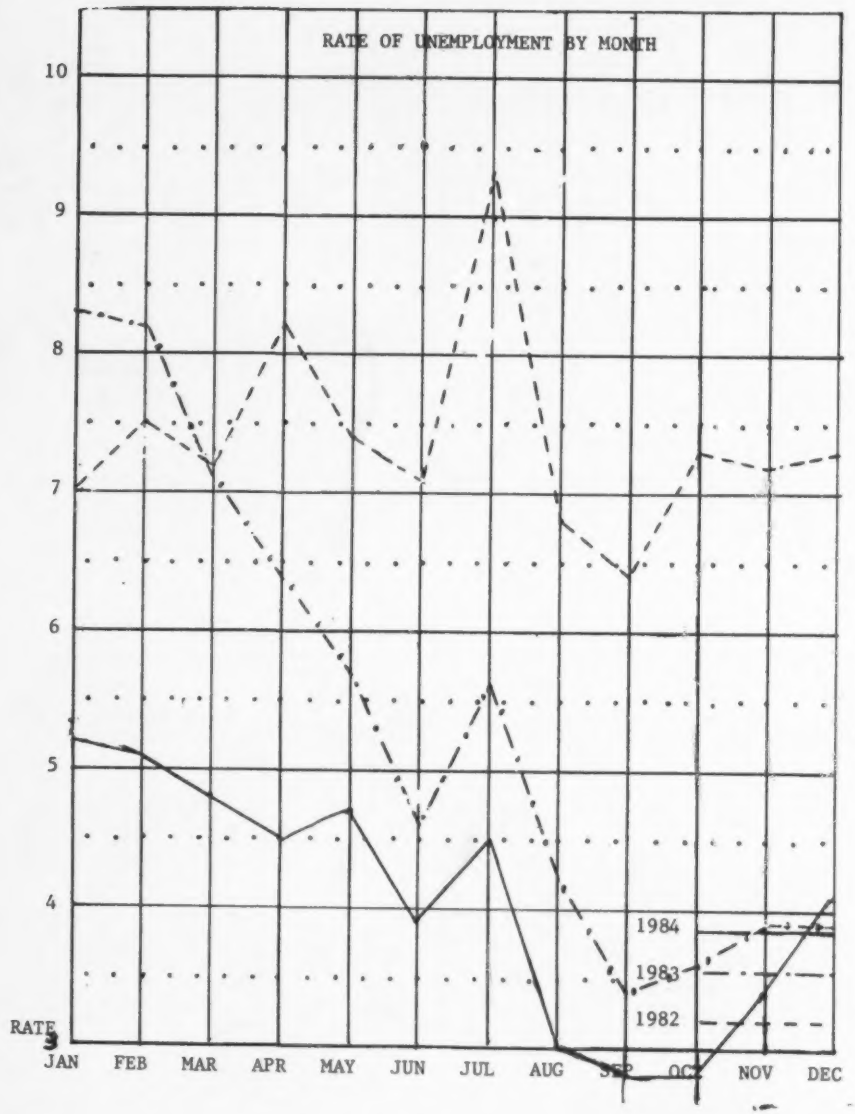
Total Unemployment and Labor Force by Labor Market Area (LMA) and County

Area	Unemployment*								Civilian Labor Force				
	December 1984		November 1984		December 1983		Numerical Change From Previous		December 1984	November 1984	December 1983	Numerical Change From Previous	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Month	Year				Month	Year
United States**	7,978	7.0	7,869	6.9	8,992	8.0	109	-1,014	114,028	114,115	111,795	-87	2,233
New Hampshire	21,390	4.1	17,750	3.4	19,980	3.9	3,640	1,410	525,540	527,130	511,720	-1,590	13,820
Labor Market Area													
Berlin	1,150	5.6	980	4.9	1,380	6.9	170	-230	20,390	20,120	20,000	270	390
Claremont	1,160	2.9	970	2.4	1,350	3.6	190	-190	39,480	39,950	38,020	-470	1,460
Concord	1,560	3.2	1,140	2.4	1,490	3.2	420	70	48,160	48,310	46,000	-150	2,160
Dover	3,390	7.0	2,800	5.9	2,120	4.6	590	1,270	48,560	47,850	46,490	710	2,070
Keene	1,100	2.7	940	2.3	1,340	3.4	160	-240	40,790	40,870	39,980	-80	810
Laconia	1,770	3.9	1,280	2.8	1,530	3.5	490	240	45,070	45,430	43,540	-360	1,530
Littleton	990	6.5	990	6.6	1,090	7.3	0	-100	15,130	15,060	14,850	70	280
Manchester	3,210	3.5	2,460	2.7	3,360	3.8	750	-150	91,090	91,590	88,160	-500	2,930
Nashua	2,580	2.8	2,130	2.3	2,690	3.0	450	-110	93,540	94,010	89,460	-470	4,080
Portsmouth	2,850	5.0	2,590	4.6	2,160	3.7	260	690	56,450	56,900	58,240	-450	-1,790
N.H. - Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA***	1,630	6.1	1,470	5.4	1,470	5.4	160	160	26,880	27,040	26,980	-160	-100
County													
Belknap	980	4.3	690	3.0	880	4.0	290	100	23,050	23,180	22,270	-130	780
Carroll	560	3.9	500	3.5	560	4.0	60	0	14,240	14,270	13,830	-30	410
Cheshire	1,010	2.8	840	2.3	1,280	3.6	170	-270	36,560	36,600	35,880	-40	680
Coos	1,180	6.6	1,040	5.9	1,460	8.2	140	-280	17,980	17,750	17,730	230	250
Grafton	1,400	3.9	1,250	3.5	1,410	4.1	150	-10	35,960	36,200	34,770	-240	1,190
Hillsborough	5,120	3.1	4,130	2.5	5,400	3.4	990	-280	165,270	166,150	158,940	-880	6,330
Merrimack	1,810	3.3	1,260	2.3	1,750	3.3	550	60	54,730	54,900	52,450	-170	2,280
Rockingham	5,540	4.9	4,900	4.3	4,520	4.0	640	1,020	113,680	114,420	114,410	-740	-730
Strafford	3,080	7.1	2,570	6.0	1,870	4.5	510	1,210	43,650	43,040	41,730	610	1,920
Sullivan	710	3.5	570	2.8	850	4.3	140	-140	20,420	20,620	19,710	-200	710

* Based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics "43 Step Method" Handbook adjusted to the Current Population Survey estimates.

** In thousands, not seasonally adjusted.

*** New Hampshire portion of the Lawrence-Haverhill, Massachusetts Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area which includes Salem and six small towns.



AREA DEFINITIONS

Manchester Labor Market Area includes the city of Manchester and towns of Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Chester, Derry, Goffstown, Hooksett, Londonderry, New Boston, Raymond and Weare.

Nashua Labor Market Area is located in the southern section of Hillsborough County and includes the City of Nashua and the towns of Amherst, Brookline, Greenville, Hollis, Litchfield, Lyndeboro, Mason, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, New Ipswich, Pelham, Temple and Wilton.

U. S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Item	1984	1983	1982	1981
Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers				
Current month - December	312.2			
Percent change from year ago	3.5			
Year average	307.6	297.4	288.6	272.3
Percent increase each year	3.4	3.0	6.0	10.2
All Urban Consumers				
Current month - December	315.5			
Percent change from year ago	4.0			
Year average	311.1	298.4	289.1	272.4
Percent increase each year	4.3	3.2	6.1	10.4

THE TWENTY MANUFACTURING OCCUPATIONS EMPLOYING THE

LARGEST NUMBER OF WORKERS*

LISTED BY ORDER OF RANK

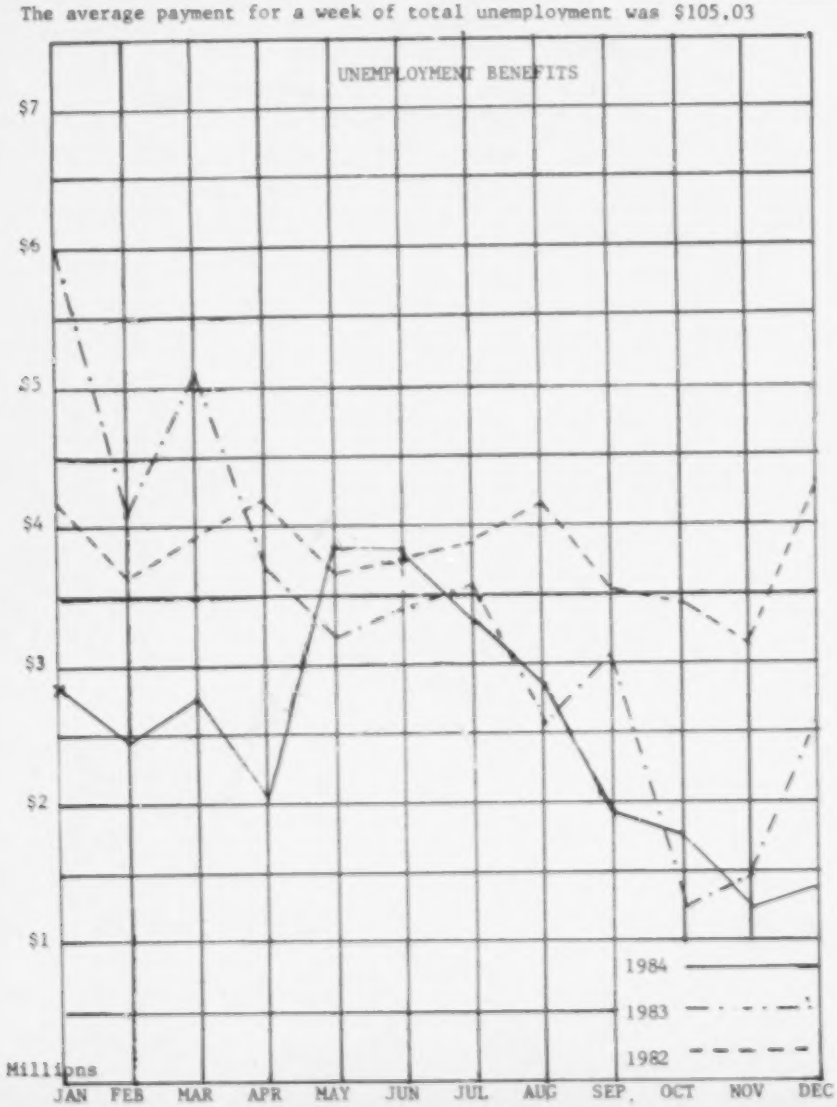
RANK	OES CODE	OCCUPATIONAL TITLE	ESTIMATED EMPLOYMENT	PERCENT OF TOTAL
1	93956	Assemblers and Fabricators-Except Machines, Electrical, Electronic and Precision	4,685	4.2
2	81008	First Line Supervisors and Manager/ Supervisors-Production and Operating Workers	3,633	3.2
3	83005	Production Inspectors, Testers, Graders, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	3,393	3.0
4	19005	General Managers and Top Executives	3,009	2.7
5	55100	Secretaries	2,732	2.4
6	22126	Electrical and Electronics Engineers	2,671	2.4
7	93905	Electrical and Electronic Assemblers	2,646	2.3
8	93114	Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers-Precision	2,517	2.2
9	92723	Shoe Sewing Machine Operators and Tenders	2,071	1.8
10	83002	Precision Inspectors, Testers, and Graders	1,950	1.7
11	98905	Hand Packers and Packagers	1,806	1.6
12	98502	Machine Feeders and Offbearers	1,749	1.6
13	89108	Machinists	1,718	1.5
14	22505	Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technicians and Technologists	1,534	1.4
15	58023	Stock Clerks-Stockroom, Warehouse or Storage Yard	1,439	1.3
16	92917	Sewing Machine Operators, Garment	1,318	1.2
17	85132	Maintenance Repairers, General Utility	1,287	1.1
18	58028	Traffic, Shipping, and Receiving Clerks	1,254	1.1
	98700	Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,254	1.1
20	55347	General Office Clerks	1,248	1.1

* OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS SURVEY-SECOND QUARTER 1983

Weekly Claims Filed During December
Classified by Local Office

Area	Unemployment Compensation		U.C. State Workers (Only)		UC Local Government		Servicemen UCX (Only)		U.C. Federal Employees No UI	
	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.
All Offices	8,098	16,575	22	50	12	17	54	104	29	63
Berlin	350	1,124	0	0	0	0	7	6	0	0
Claremont	339	674	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	2
Concord	818	1,089	4	16	2	0	8	9	0	4
Conway	107	272	0	2	0	0	0	2	3	4
Dover	1,372	3,198	2	3	2	6	7	18	5	11
Keene	369	719	1	1	2	5	1	8	3	3
Laconia	946	1,155	7	5	2	0	8	12	0	7
Lebanon	96	251	1	2	0	0	2	1	3	8
Littleton	420	1,072	5	16	1	3	3	6	0	0
Manchester	1,615	2,301	2	5	3	1	6	10	7	6
Nashua	689	788	0	0	0	0	4	0	2	0
Portsmouth	444	1,773	0	0	0	2	6	18	3	7
Salem	159	511	0	0	0	0	2	5	1	3
Liable Interstate	374	1,648	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	8

The average payment for a week of total unemployment was $105.03



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance End Of Month

Dec. $91,607,496.61

Net contributions received during month:

Dec. $ 133,175.86
Nov. $ 2,341,812.51

Net benefits paid during month:

Dec. $ 1,213,112.16
Nov. $ 1,366,711.59

Interest Received:

0

YEAR - 1984 SUMMARY

Net contributions received

$40,797,755.48

Net benefits paid

$30,637.016.96

Interest Received

$ 8,010,093.01

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

New Hampshire

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983
All manufacturing	$335.30	$331.28	$315.05	41.6	41.0	41.4	$8.06	$8.08	$7.61
Durable goods	352.78	347.77	333.43	42.3	41.5	42.1	8.34	8.38	7.92
Lumber & wood prods.	271.23	262.03	240.73	41.6	41.2	39.4	6.52	6.36	6.11
Furniture & fixtures	286.01	268.00	259.38	40.8	40.3	38.2	7.01	6.65	6.79
Stone & clay prods.	369.84	344.36	345.49	46.0	43.7	45.7	8.04	7.88	7.56
Primary metal prods.	354.32	367.04	364.57	43.0	43.8	45.8	8.24	8.38	7.96
Fab. metal prods.	308.61	309.10	318.00	40.5	40.3	42.8	7.62	7.67	7.43
Mach. (exc. elec.)	405.89	393.34	377.91	45.3	43.9	44.2	8.96	8.96	8.55
Electrical prods.	353.57	358.00	330.48	40.5	40.0	40.5	8.73	8.95	8.16
Miscellaneous prods.	237.98	241.74	245.02	39.4	39.5	40.3	6.04	6.12	6.08
Other durables	363.27	347.54	346.52	41.9	40.6	41.4	8.67	8.56	8.37
Nondurable goods	304.21	301.95	286.13	40.4	40.1	40.3	7.53	7.53	7.10
Food & kindred prods.	376.58	384.86	355.04	40.8	42.2	40.3	9.23	9.12	8.81
Textile mill prods.	277.17	271.96	268.13	40.7	39.3	41.7	6.81	6.92	6.43
Apparel	204.61	211.66	198.65	37.0	38.0	37.2	5.53	5.57	5.34
Paper & allied prods.	473.64	453.60	439.36	49.7	48.0	49.2	9.53	9.45	8.93
Print., pub. & allied	296.51	301.95	297.36	39.8	40.1	41.3	7.45	7.53	7.20
Leather & lea. prods.	192.24	184.68	177.85	36.0	34.2	34.4	5.34	5.40	5.17
Footwear	181.44	174.87	166.97	35.3	33.5	33.8	5.14	5.22	4.94
Other nondurables	336.18	338.62	322.60	40.7	41.6	41.2	8.26	8.14	7.83

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 60

Total Production Workers: 87,850

Firms Reporting: 379

Manchester Labor Market Area

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983
All manufacturing	$313.13	$311.12	$295.80	40.3	40.3	40.3	$7.77	$7.72	$7.34
Durable goods	339.06	330.89	309.10	40.9	40.7	40.3	8.29	8.13	7.67
Mach. & elec. prods.	354.06	348.61	324.73	42.0	41.9	41.9	8.43	8.32	7.75
Other durables	313.56	302.25	281.63	39.0	38.8	37.5	8.04	7.79	7.51
Nondurable goods	278.48	286.16	278.88	39.5	39.8	40.3	7.05	7.19	6.92
Textiles & apparel	260.29	261.02	249.86	39.2	38.9	40.3	6.64	6.71	6.20
Other nondurables	284.72	294.33	290.56	39.6	40.1	40.3	7.19	7.34	7.21

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 58

Total Production Workers: 12,600

Firms Reporting: 55

Nashua Labor Market Area

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983
All manufacturing	$401.72	$406.02	$380.28	41.5	41.6	42.3	$9.68	$9.76	$8.99
Durable goods	405.88	411.31	389.58	41.8	41.8	43.0	9.71	9.84	9.06
Mach. & elec. prods.	423.28	439.67	419.61	40.7	41.4	42.6	10.40	10.62	9.85
Other durables	360.37	340.69	323.98	44.6	42.8	43.9	8.08	7.96	7.38
Nondurable goods	381.60	382.99	350.47	40.0	40.7	40.1	9.54	9.41	8.74

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 72

Total Production Workers: 21,400

Firms Reporting: 77

Number of Active Applicants and Female Applicants by Major Occupational Category
Period Ending December 1984

	NEW HAMPSHIRE		MANCHESTER		NASHUA	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
TOTAL	11,691	5,043	1,634	733	905	356
Prof., Tech. (00-16)	1,159	461	73	23	137	21
Managerial (18,19)	580	230	104	62	96	49
Clerical (20-24)	1,893	1,539	262	218	154	111
Sales (25-29)	553	254	91	36	34	19
Services (3)	1,736	1,033	262	166	80	41
Farm (4)	147	31	10	2	5	2
Processing (5)	224	72	33	10	20	4
Machine Trade (6)	1,217	452	134	58	76	21
Benchwork (7)	1,082	708	158	103	111	62
Structural (8)	2,057	55	296	4	102	5
Miscellaneous (9)	989	179	191	38	90	21
Unclassified	54	29	20	13	0	0

Employment Service Activity

ITEM	December 1984	November 1984	July 1, 1984 to December 31, 1984
Total applicants for employment	2,495	3,163	18,123
Total nonagricultural job openings received	1,823	2,059	16,105
Job openings unfilled end of month	1,499	2,689	xxx
Placements - nonagricultural & agricultural	1,259	1,137	7,626

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
32 SOUTH MAIN STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-4857

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

U.S.MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL

Third Class Mail

LAB-449

CONGRESSIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE, INC.
4520 EAST-WEST HIGHWAY
SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20014